

As a former Boy Scout, I believe in leaving the campground better than when you found it. I have worked with seven administrations, seven House Speakers. None of them would call me a rubber stamp. If it is good policy for Michigan, it is good enough for all of us.

As a vice chair of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, we have pushed the envelope to get things done, taking on some complex and often controversial issues that others may want to just sweep under the rug. Immigration reform, including border security, for our Dreamers and farmers, a real honest-to-goodness infrastructure bill that passed 69-30 in the Senate but then hit the rocks here in the House, barely surviving Trump's opposition, despite his call for a proposal twice as expensive with no pay-fors.

I have worked alongside real giants who put principle over politics: Greg Walden, Paul Henry, MIKE ROGERS, Pat Tiberi, Susan Brooks, Charlie Dent, John Lewis, Mike Castle, Henry Hyde, Amo Houghton, Dave Camp, Nancy Johnson, and Don Young were among the best.

I work daily on all things Michigan, particularly with DEBBIE DINGELL, and we have been hitting the road to push for civility. Hopefully, civility and bipartisanship versus discord can rule, not rue, the day.

Current colleagues like CMR, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, STEVE WOMACK, MARIO DIAZ-BALART, JOSH GOTTHEIMER, BRIAN FITZPATRICK, TOM COLE, DAVE MCKINLEY, DAN KILDEE, JOHN KATKO, KURT SCHRADER, DEAN PHILLIPS, PETER MEIJER, and my friend Steny cut the mustard, too.

I have been blessed having wonderful, hardworking staff all these years. Yes, two of them—including my chief of staff, Joan Hillebrands—have been on my team 36 years, with another handful between 15 and 20 years. Our district team has worked on so many different casework issues, in the tens of thousands. Throughout the COVID nightmare, we worked with our local bankers to save dozens of small businesses with PPP, and we worked to get vital supplies to our wonderful health facilities and frontline workers, who are still so stressed today.

Even the best of stories has a last chapter. This is it for me. I have done the zillions of airline miles back and forth. I have signed "Fred" to over a million letters; cast more votes than anyone in this Chamber while here; and by most accounts, have succeeded in making a difference, accomplishing what I have set out to do, with more unfinished work still yet to come.

Arthur Brooks recently wrote about three traits most important in life—honesty, compassion, and faith. I would like to think those same yardsticks were passed along to me by my parents, watching on C-SPAN now.

Someone asked my wife, Amey, what would be the next chapter? She said, "and they lived happily ever after." In-

deed, we will. I thank Amey, our two kids, and three grandkids for giving me so much to look forward to.

Thanks again to the people of my district who placed their faith and confidence in me all these years.

God bless the USA.

FRED UPTON HAS BEEN A DEVOTED PUBLIC SERVANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, for 35 years, FRED UPTON has been a devoted public servant for southwest Michigan, all of Michigan, and our Nation.

Throughout his career, he has always put the people he served first. To him, bipartisan and compromise are not forbidden words. Fred knew well that if we are going to deliver real solutions for the American people, we need to come together and listen to all perspectives, no matter how complicated the issue might be. It is because of that thinking, he was able to get so much done in Congress.

I am especially proud of all that we have been able to accomplish together. Thanks to his partnership, we were able to pass legislation to protect the Great Lakes for future generations and lower the cost of healthcare for all Americans. Together, we have championed removing the harmful PFAS chemicals from our Nation's drinking water, and I am confident we are going to get this to the President's desk.

While we may not have found harmony on every issue, Fred and I always managed to disagree without vitriolic rhetoric and mean-spirited language. Even through our toughest discussions, Fred always found a way to make me laugh, except today. It is his civility that I—and Congress—will miss the most.

Fred really believed that he was an American first, that reaching across the aisle was important, that working together is how we get things done for the American people. His retiring is a loss for this country, and especially the people of Michigan.

Fred is a dear friend to me, was John's best friend, and was there when John died. The Dingell family loves him. He is one of the greatest Michiganders to serve our country. I wish him, Amey, and their family the best as they prepare for the next adventure. And there will be one. Thank you, Fred.

CONGRATULATING VMI'S CLUB BOXING TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to express my thanks to the gentleman from Michigan for his years of service to this country, to this body, and to the great State of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Virginia Military Institute Club

Boxing Team, which recently won the United States Intercollegiate Boxing Association National Championships in Atlanta, Georgia. This victory marks the program's second national title in seven years, the last of which came in 2015.

Throughout this year's tournament, the team amassed an impressive 20-8 record, scoring six knockouts, one technical knockout, nine unanimous decisions, and four split decisions. Of the 14 cadets competing, 5 won individual national championship belts, while another 7 took home silver medals. Each of these national champions and runners-up also earned All-American individual honors for their stellar performances in their respective weight classes.

The team's coach, Joe Shafer, credited their win to preparation, dedication, and hard work. Coach Shafer said, "We represented the Institute with a fighting spirit: honoring VMI's history, upholding the passions of our forefathers, and personifying the principles of excellence for VMI."

The cadets certainly showcased the very best of the Virginia Military Institute, and the team should be incredibly proud of their efforts. Congratulations again to these national champions. They made the Commonwealth proud.

AMERICA'S ECONOMIC CRISIS

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is in the midst of an economic crisis, yet the Biden administration fails to take action to ease the burden on American families.

When inflation began to soar and hit a 40-year high recently, the President's own chief of staff shrugged it off as a "high-class problem," insinuating that it was only affecting the wealthy, which we know not to be true.

Instead of offering solutions, this administration offers excuses. Perhaps worst of all is the fact that when given the chance to combat soaring prices by reining in wasteful spending, President Biden went entirely in the opposite direction by proposing a \$5.8 trillion budget that is more of the same liberal, tax-and-spend policies that have led us to this economic crisis in the first place.

If Biden's budget were adopted, the national debt would reach a new record by the end of the decade, growing by over \$15 trillion, reaching \$45 trillion by 2032 or about \$350,000 per household.

Further, not only does his budget proposal include nearly \$2.5 trillion in new or increased taxes, it also increases the corporate tax rate to 28 percent, higher than even Communist China. As an American, I am offended by that. Every American should be offended by that.

The Tax Foundation estimated that this increase would kill 159,000 jobs, shrink the economy by \$720 billion, and cut wages for low-income workers.

President Biden's budget will leave the overwhelming majority of Americans behind, explode the national debt,